Mutual Alliance Trust Company

OF NEW YORK

JAMES H. PARKER, PRESIDENT
WEBB FLOYD, VICE PRESIDENT.
H.A. CLINKUNBROOMER TREASURER.
F. J. LEARY SECRETARY.
F. B. FRENCH, ASST. SECRETARY.

35 WALL STREET

NEW YORK

CABLE ADDRESS
"MUTRUST" NEW YORK
BRANCHES
266-268 GRAND STREET
LENOX AVENUE AND 116TH STREET

Dec. 9, 1912.

Mr. G. M. West,
c/o Bank of Panama City,
Panama City, Fla.

My dear Mr. West:

I have your favor of the 3rd inst. to hand, and thank you very much for writing me so fully regarding the affairs at Lynn Haven. As soon as I learned that the principal party in the Company was located in New York I sent for a special report on him which I expect to receive in the immediate future, and when I do so I will be pleased to send you a copy for your own information.

What little inquiry I have made so far has not disclosed anything unfavorable about him.

With my best personal regards, I am,

Very truly yours,

Webb Floyd

Vice-President.

WF/MS

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Dec. 10, 1912.

Mr. G. M. West,

c/o Bank of Panama City,

Panama City, Fla.

My dear Mr. West:

Today I received some information regarding the parties at Lynn Haven, and I am forwarding a copy of it to you herewith as I stated I would yesterday.

The report is given us confidentially and I will appreciate your treating it so.

Very truly yours,

Webb Floyd

Vice-President.

WF/MS
enc.

In reply to your inquiry about St.Andrews Bay Development Co, we beg to report this is a $2,000,000 Delaware corporation, all common stock. Those interested are: H.W.Randolph (of Brown & Randolph,attys.Atlanta,Ga); Robt.L.McKenzie (real estate, Panama City, Fla); H.N.Thomas (Dist.Atty. of the District of Columbia at Washington, D.C.); John McElroh (Editor of National Tribune, Washington, D.C.); D.L.Rice (of National Tribune, Washington, D.C.) and Wm. H.Lynn (111 B'way, N.Y.City). This Company is carrying on a land development at Lynn Haven, Fla. The Company owns more than 30,000 acres of land in Washington County, Fla. The townsite of Lynn Haven is free and clear of all encumbrance. We understand that Lynn Haven has a population now of something over 1500 people.

Wm. H. Lynn, 111 B'way, N.Y.City, controls the above company. Prior to Mr. Lynn's activity in connection with St.Andrews Bay Development Co, he was interested (and still is) and connected with Seminole Land & Investment Co, which colonized the town St.Cloud, Osceola County, Central Florida. We understand that St.Cloud is now an established town with a population of more than 2000. Our first information concerning Wm.H.Lynn is from Duluth, Minn. where he made some money in railroad building and real estate. He also dabbled in politics, and was for two terms a state Legislator (from the 4th District of Duluth). He left Duluth about 1896 and went to Central America where he was engaged in railroad construction, making considerable money, and before he returned to this country, he married, about 1901, the sister of the President of Costa Rica. She was a young widow with four children. They lived very happily at New Rochelle in a very handsome house which Mr. Lynn built. The entire family consists of eight children, four hers and four theirs. Since living in New Rochelle Mr. Lynn ran for Congress, but was defeated. People in speaking of Mr. Lynn generally call him "Senator". He is about 55 years old, bears a very good personal reputation as to habits, etc. We have had numerous communications concerning Mr. Lynn from Duluth, Minn. where he was respected and had a great many strong friends with whom he has had relations since leaving there. When Mr. Lynn opened an office here, he had a considerable sum of cash which he deposited in various banks, his wealth being spoken of at that time as more than a milion dollars. He proceeded to invest it in various propositions, some of which were not altogether profitable; he became interested in the Liberty Life Insurance Co, which was a losing venture for him and which was absorbed by a larger company during 1911. Wm.H.Lynn is a lawyer, was in partnership for several years with Chauncey Truax (now deceased) brother of Judge Truax. Mr. Lynn was one of the owners of the Lords Court Bldg, 27 William St, through his interest in the Truax Syndicate which held title to the building. Mr. Lynn was and may yet be the owner of some 600 lots in Long Island City which we understand are worth in the neighborhood of $200,000. He has the controlling interest in the National Tribune (a newspaper) at Washington, D.C., he banks with the Chase National Bank and Bankers Trust Co, N.Y. City. One of Mr. Lynn's undertakings was the building of the Savannah, Augusta & Northern R.R. which went into the hands of a receiver. This undertaking, while not yet a closed book, will net him a loss. He is Pres.' Dir. of First National Bank, St. Cloud, Fla; V.P. & Dir. of National City Bank, Washington, D.C., and a director of Union Savings Bank Washington, D.C. During the panic in 1907 Mr. Lynn was somewhat tied up and owed a considerable sum of money to several banks in this city, his loans, however, being substantially secured by collateral not altogether quick. Since 1907, however, matters have eased up considerably with Mr. Lynn. We find upon investigation that he has paid up his loans, and now maintains comfortable balances in several banks. A number of

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people who have been associated with Mr. Lynn in various transactions during the past ten years speak of him as a man whose word is good and who will go to great lengths to live up to his promises. There is nothing that we can learn of in his business carerr in N.Y.City which has earned him much else than commendation. Mr. Lynn was recently interviewed and asked to place an estimate upon his land interests in Florida, and he stated that he would be unwilling to take a million dollars for what he has. It is, as a matter of fact, hard to estimate such holdings.

Dec 17th, 1912.

Mr Webb Floyd,
Mutual Alliance Trust Co.,
New York City.

My dear Mr Floyd:-

Your favors of the 9th and 10th have been received. Thank you for the same.

Your report on the St Andrews Bay Development Company, and W. H. Lynn agree with my knowledge of the same with few exceptions, which possibly in some future event these exceptions may prove of value to you.

The St Andrews Bay Development Company originally consisted of the parties named, with McElroy of the National Tribune, and Rice, pushing the proposition before the old soldiers through the Tribune. Last Summer there was a falling out between Lynn and the Tribune people and Rice, the treasurer refused to further honor Lynns drafts or allow him to draw on the companys funds until there had been an audit. That was begun last Summerand they were still at it on the New York end a short time ago. Lynn handled this as Trustee, and at the meeting I spoke of when these men here were placed in office in place of McElroy, Rice and Porter, he resigned or rather turned the affairs over to the company.

The company first sold an alottment of a lot in Lynn Haven, a 5 acre tract, and a $100 railway bond for I think $200. They done much advertising through the mails and the affair was investigated by the postal authorities on account of the road not being built. To fulfill this part of those advertisemen and get clear of any trouble with the department is one of the objects of building the road they are now trying to finance, a short line about 8 miles in length. The parties here, Mr Gay and others gave their personal obligations for one half the money required to get rail for four miles of thisroad.

While it is probably true that Lynn Haven property is clear of any incumbrance, it is also true that the town lost there are nearly all allotted. And there is a mortgage on other parts of the land they own, and the most valuable part thereof, the east half of this town, which they are now talking of developing, is n t their until the road is built to the waters edge on it, and other improvements made. Mr Gay owns this and insists upon the development being made before he lets it go in to their hands. He also has some claim, possibly $15.000 on the other land he sold them.

In a talk recently with Mr R. L. McKenzie he stated that if the unsold interests of the company were properly handled they might be on easy street, and could make some money, but that there was much to do to get matters in shape to realize on. They are now talking of engaging Mr Skeen, who was in Hamilton Fish's day, land commisioner of the Illinois central, to handle their property here.

This past Summer and Fall Mr Lynn has been engaged in co-operating with a New York party in collecting a claim against the Cuban governemnt, of which you probably have heard. If he is succesful there promises to be a snug sum in it I think for him.

At the meeting the other day of the stockholders of the bank at Lynn Haven no change was made in the officers as was expected would be. Mr McKenzie told me they would wait til some matters in New York were closed up before making the change that the Comptroller requested. Just what the delay was caused by I could not say.

I note your correspondent says that Mr Lynn has the controlling interest in the National Tribune. I think you will find that he now has little or no interest in that paper.

Mr Lynn is not noted for prompt payments here. Confidentially would say that he owes our bank a small amount on a demand note and thou repeatedly requested to close it out, has not done so as yet. His land purchases have also caused much talk here through his dilatory methods of payment for the same. However I believe that if properly handle he will make much more out of this proposition, and he certainly has made a large sum out of the sale of over 7.000 allotments in Lynn Haven, that were sold at $100 each. But little of this money was ever expended here and no one seems to know just where it went to.

Pardon this rather uncalled for report but as I said in the beginning something might occur to call for a fuller knowledge of Mr Lynn than was given in your report, thus my further writing.

With kind personal regards I am

Very truly yours